

FULL BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
August 9, 2022

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairwoman Debbie Smith

Invocation by Chairwoman Debbie Smith

Pledge Allegiance to the Flag by Chairwoman Debbie Smith

Roll Call by Marion County Board Secretary Sheri Barter

Members Present: Chairwoman Debbie Smith, Dr. Creighton Engel, Ms. Sharon Woodward, Ms. Judith Meeks-Hakim, Mr. Adam Smith, Mr. William Henson, Mr. David Iossi, Mr. James Purcell, Ms. Deb Reed, Ms. Judith Shafer, Mr. Chris Krupp, Mr. Wes Gozia and Mr. Steven Bradley. Absent: Ms. Angela Hiestand and Mr. Steven Whritenour.

Others Present: Marion County Board Secretary Sheri Barter, Ben Stratemeyer-SCT, Treasurer-Gary Purcell, Sheriff Andy Garden, Tim Hudspeth-Marion County State's Attorney, Mike McCormick-County Engineer, Ken Ferguson,-Marion County Animal Control Officer, Kevin Cripps-Sheriff's Department, Gene Mackey and Robert of AMERESCO, WJBD - Bruce Kropp, Salem Times Commoner - Dennis Rosenberg , Steve Bryant - Good Energy LP, and Tom Simpson-Diamond Brothers.

At beginning of meeting, Adam Smith, addressed the Board indicating the Personnel Committee that evening accepted Marion County Board Secretary's resignation effective Friday, August 26, 2022. Ms. Barter will assist Chairman Smith on secretarial work and duties performed. Board members thanked her for the work she had done. Ms Barter indicated that the board chair asked her to help and that is something she wanted to do; however, the demands of Board Secretary and Marion County ESDA Coordinator became too overwhelming.

THOSE ADDRESSING THE BOARD

Elected Officials:

Mr. Tim Hudspeth, State's Attorney, addressed the board concerning the "National Multistate Opioid Settlement Agreement Back-Stop Agreement". It is a brief agreement indicating attorneys would receive contingency fees for these particular cases. Board needs to take no action other than Board Chair signing the agreement.

Public:

Mr. Ben Stratemeyer-SCT, addressed the board concerning SCT. He indicated that Marion County has the most ridership and in the near future more transit opportunities are coming to Salem.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The minutes were provided at meeting and members did not have time to review. Mr. Wes Gozia made motion to table until August 23, 2022 meeting and second by Ms. Sharon Woodward. Voice vote:

All Ayes and no nays.

Appointments

Letter from Marion County Housing Authority dated July 27, 2022 requesting reappointment of Rita Boudet which current term expires 9/24/22. Mr. Wes Gozia made motion and Mrs. Sharon Woodward second. Voice Vote – All ayes and no nays.

Letter from Salem Police Department, Chief of Police Sean Reynolds is requesting Sergeant Kyle Ambuehl be his replacement on the Marion County ETSB Board. Motion by Mr. Wes Gozia and second by Mrs. Sharon Woodward. Voice Vote: All ayes and no nays.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

BUILDING AND HISTORICAL – CHAIRMAN CREIGHTON ENGEL

Information/Discussion/Action:

Gene Mackey and Rob Dulaney from AMERESCO attended to bring elected officials up-to-date. Mr. Mackey indicated at previous meeting he was only prepared to speak on financial, accounting schematics and wasn't up-to-date on projects' status.

Rob provided a real time update on projects. Ground Floor Doors in jail should be wrapped up by August 12; hardware end of September and moving to controls; Renee Pride should be able to move back to her renovated office end of month; sump pump issues under courthouse; first floor restrooms on hold – labor issues; 911 center equipment has been received and pending installation; courthouse pipes have been pressurized and will close up open pipe areas, with end of month as target date to be online; third floor bathrooms have been gutted and working on issues to ensure required compliance's are met; Treasurer's Office is back in place with some details pending completion; and, all boiler issues have been resolved.

County Board Chair Debbie Smith indicated there will be a meeting held in the Board Room, Friday, August 19, 2022 at 8:00 A.M. Elected Officials have an opportunity to address their concerns and any other issues regarding the renovation projects with AMERESCO team Gene Mackey and Rob Dulaney

Approval of bills totaling \$24,803.38 motion by Dr. Creighton Engel and second by Mr. Jim Purcell to approve bills. Roll Call Vote: 13 yes and 0 no

FINANCE/INSURANCE – CHAIRMAN CREIGHTON ENGEL

Information/Discussion/Action:

General bills totaling \$73,981.91 Motion to approve by Dr. Creighton Engel and second by Mrs. Judy Shafer. Roll Call Vote: 13 yes and 0 no

Insurance bills totaling \$44,820.47 Motion to approve by Dr. Creighton Engel and second by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Roll Call Vote: 13 yes and 0 no

Judicial bills totaling \$926,537.47 (3 pay period & Election) – Motion to approve by Dr. Creighton Engel and second by Judith Meeks-Hakim. Roll Call Vote: 13 yes and 0 no

Mr. Tom Simpson from Dimond Brothers attended the meeting indicating he had secured an additional \$1,000,000 to add to our already approved \$4,000,000 Cyber Policy in July 2022. We had initially requested \$5,000,000 when we started the policy; however, we failed to meet the qualifications. This additional 1,000,000 will cost approximately \$5,200 more a year, but would be prorated and would be less than quote until next renewal in July. After discussion motion was made by Dr. Creighton Engel and second by Mrs. Sharon Woodward to approve additional \$1,000,000 and cost would not exceed \$5,200.00. Roll Call Vote: 13 yes and 0 no *NOTE: Invoice # 3657.00*

LAW ENFORCEMENT – ACTING CHAIRMAN WES GOZIA

Information/Discussion/Action:

Sheriff Andy Garden indicated the past month they had received 783 calls of which two were felony drug arrests and 17 citations. Population was 90 inmates which includes 27 federal. He did provide food cost per inmate this period which resulted in \$1.71 per meal.

Sheriff Garden indicated the doors in the jail should be done in September and all is going good. Further stated he was going to pick up the two new squad trucks.

Marion County ESDA Coordinator Sheri Barter reported attendance at the Marion County Fair was 31,300 which resulted in ESDA doing traffic control and parking for approximately 20-25,000 vehicles. Did report two vehicles got stuck.

Approval of Bills \$89,764.77: Motion by Mr. Wes Gozia and second by Mr. David Iossi to approve bills. Roll Call Vote: 13 yes and 0 no

ROAD AND BRIDGE – MR. STEVE BRADLEY, CHAIR

Information/Discussion/Action:

Approval of Bills \$981,008.58: Motion by Mr. Steve Bradley and second by Judith Meeks-Hakim to approve bills. Roll Call Vote: 13 yes and 0 No.

Resolution

2022-88: Joint Bridge repair with Patoka in the amount of \$31,456.66, in which the Highway Commissioner hereby petitions for aid and for an appropriation from the County Treasurer of a sum sufficient to meet one-half (\$15,728.33) the expenses of said bridge or other work, said Road District being prepared to finish the other half of the amount required. Motion to approve by Mr. Bradley and second by Mr. Jim Purcell. Roll Call Vote: 13 yes and 0 no.

2022-89: Purchase of a Used 2006 International Single Axle Dump Truck in the amount of \$35,838.00. Steve Bradley made **motion to table** until August 23 meeting and was second by Mr. Wes Gozia. Voice Vote: All ayes and No nays.

Mr. Mike McCormick indicated that Church Road has been completed; however approaches on both sides are not completed. Mr. Jim Purcell asked how high these approaches would be and the response was five feet.

Kline, Race Track, and Range Roads are on track. However, Skillet Fork is a nightmare. Needing constant repairs to keep open; however, due to ongoing deterioration, there may be no other option than to close the road.

Mr. McCormick indicated that at the next meeting on August 23, 2022, he wanted to discuss the transfer of some funds from his budget.

COUNTY AND COMMUNITY – CHAIRMAN BILL HENSON

Information/Discussion/Action:

Steve Bryant of Good Energy LP addressed the board and indicated our agreement was good until the end of 2023. Appears we are in good shape and the madness in local energy supplier prices has to stop. They have done 18, 24 and 36 month contracts with Homefield Energy.

Those in unincorporated areas can opt out of this plan provided by Homefield Energy. Currently 90 percent have opted in. Their current rate is .04948 and Ameren 10.628 and in October they go to 12.730. The savings with Good Energy is huge to the unincorporated households. Customers can opt into program and begin immediately save with the new rate. If for some reason some one would opt out they have to wait a full year to opt back in. In addition Co-Ops are untouchable and cannot be a part of this program.

As he was leaving he wanted to compliment the Board for saying Pledge to our Flag and Prayer. He was amazed this was being done and was truly inspired.

Ken Ferguson, Animal Control Administrator, report for month: 17-dogs, 1-possum, bats, 1-skunk and 1-cow. He inquired as to whether the City of Centralia had hired an animal control officer at this time. He further stated that City of Centralia dispatcher should not contact the Sheriff's Office regarding animals, but contact himself. This will be discussed with the City of Centralia and Mr. Henson and Chairman Smith plan to meet with the Centralia City Manager and animal shelter.

Approval of Bills in the amount of \$18,340.73: Motion made by Bill Henson and second by Mrs. Judith Meeks-Hakim. Roll Call Vote: 13 Yes and 0 No.

Old Business:

Bill Henson provided an update on re-finishing the court yard flag poles. Americana provided a bid of \$1,140.00 and is looking into transportation to and from Americana. He indicated the poles were hinged with 2 hinges per pole. He contacted My Tree Service but has not heard from them regarding the transporting to and from Americana. Mr. Gozia suggested that Mr. Henson contact Landers. More information will be forthcoming.

WEBSITE – CHAIRMAN WES GOZIA

Due to Personnel Change – Website is on hold status.

MARION COUNTY BICENTENNIAL – CHAIRMAN WES GOZIA

Is playing phone tag with Mark Decker.

PERSONNEL/LABOR RELATIONS – CHAIRMAN ADAM SMITH

Information/Discussion/Action:

Tim Hudspeth, Board Member Adam Smith and Board Chairman Debbie Smith had a conference call with County's Labor Attorney Andy Martone concerning Central Laborer's Fund vs Marion County States Attorney's Office. Subsequent to conference call Attorney Andy Martone is forwarding letter to contesting monies requested. In the interim we are to make monthly payments with first installment due September 15, 2022. There is a six month window to respond and if not in our favor the county will seek arbitration.

Hiring of Deputy for Courthouse: This has been brought to the board several times with much discussion. After much discussion a motion was made by Mr. Adam Smith and Second by Dr. Creighton Engel to approve the hiring of a deputy to work security in the courthouse effective December 1, 2022 contingent upon approval of the FY 23 budget; Role Call Vote: 13 yes and 0 No

911/ESDA COMMITTEE – CHAIRMAN STEVE WHRITENOUR

Chairman Whritenour gave a brief overlay of what the committee's goals are and what it is looking to do for the county as a whole and looking into Hyper Reach at a cost of \$9,400.00 a year.

Had a meeting on August 16, 2022 at 6:30 P.M. At this meeting it was decided to invite each municipality leader to attend a meeting scheduled for September 20, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Nothing to Report

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Sharon Woodward and second by Mrs. Judith Meeks-Hakim.
Roll Call Vote: 13 Yes 0 No

8/23/22
Approved

Debbie A. Smith
Debbie A. Smith
Marion County Board Chairman

Adjourned: 8:55 PM